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FOUR NEW SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM VENEZUELA¹

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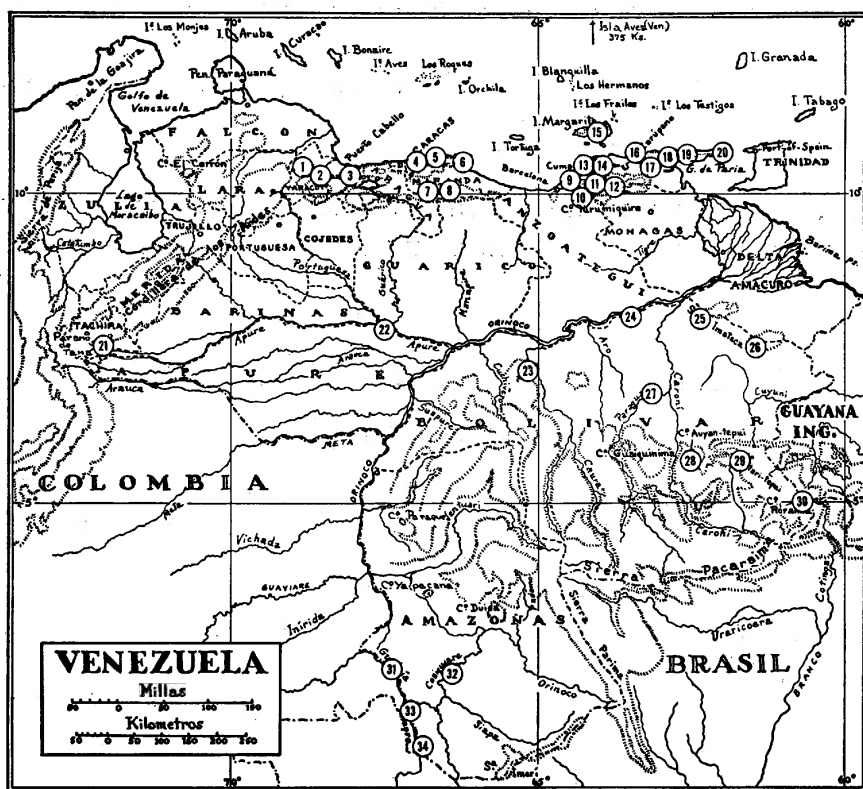
An examination of the material in the American Museum of Natural History and in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela, shows the following new subspecies.

The junior author extends his thanks to Dr. Herbert Friedmann of the United States National Museum, Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd of the Carnegie Museum, Mr. Emmet R. Blake of the Chicago Natural History Museum, and Mr. R. M. de Schauensee of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia for their cooperation in the examination of material in their museums.

In the lists of specimens examined, those in the Phelps and other collections are so characterized; the remaining material is in the American Museum of Natural History.

Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color standards and color nomenclature."

¹ Previous papers by the same authors, describing new birds in the American Museum of Natural History and in the Phelps Collection, are "New species and subspecies of birds from Venezuela. 1" (1944, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1270), "New species and subspecies of birds from Venezuela. 2" (1945, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1274), "Twenty-three new subspecies of birds from Venezuela and Brazil" (1946, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1312), "Seven new subspecies of birds from Venezuela and Brazil" (1947, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1338), and "Three new subspecies of birds from Venezuela" (1948, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 1373).



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***Pyrrhura leucotis auricularis*, new subspecies**

TYPE: From Cerro Humo, Paria Peninsula, State of Sucre, Venezuela; altitude 800 meters. No. 41008, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected November 28, 1947, by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from *P. l. emma* of the Caracas region by having larger and clearer white auricular patches; green of back and flanks slightly deeper, less yellowish; bill slightly larger; wings and tail slightly longer.

RANGE: The mountains of the northeastern coast of Venezuela in the states of Sucre, Monagas, and Anzoátegui, in the Tropical and Subtropical Zones.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Forehead with a narrow band of reddish brown against the bill; fore-crown and collar around nape Light Terra Verte; occiput dark sooty brown, faintly mottled with lighter brown; hind neck (behind the collar) and mantle dark Parrot Green; sides of lower back and outer upper tail-coverts lighter green; middle of lower back and rump Ox-blood Red, darker on central upper tail-coverts; sides of head Victoria Lake, extending over the malar region where the feathers have a small terminal bluish speck; large auricular patches white lightly tinged with grayish. Point of chin white; feathers of throat grayish blue with a white, subterminal cross-bar, giving a scaled appearance, and tip very narrowly dark; over the breast the feathers become more greenish with an Oil Yellow subterminal bar; flanks Cosse Green, under tail coverts a little darker; center of belly occupied by a broad patch of bright Ox-blood Red. Primaries and secondaries Fuscous-Black with the outer edges, except on the outermost quill, China Blue, duller distally and becoming greener on the secondaries and terminal part of inner primaries; inner webs, except for blackish inner margin, similarly bluish, becoming greener on the inner feathers; tips of both webs always fuscous; tertials, except for dark shafts, green like the mantle; primary-coverts and alula China

11 San Antonio de Maturín
33 San Carlos
3 San Esteban
22 San Fernando de Apure
21 Santo Domingo
23 Suapure

27 Tigre, Cerro
25 Tomasote, Cerro
17 Tunapuí
11 Turumiquire, Mt.
18 Yaguaraparo

Blue; bend of wing Spectrum Red; rest of upper wing-coverts Calla Green, uniform with mantle; a yellowish tinge on basal portion of broad inner margins of remiges, more intense on tertials; under primary-coverts dull light grayish green; rest of under wing-coverts Cosse Green, uniform with sides. Tail Maroon, paler on under surface, the outer vanes of the rectrices on the upper surface, except the two outermost, being largely Calla Green on basal half. Bill (in life) "black"; feet "black"; iris "orange." Wing, 115 mm.; tail, 115; culmen from cere, 16; exposed culmen, 18; tarsus, 13.

REMARKS: Sexes alike. Size slightly larger than *emma*. Range of measurements (specimens from the Paria Peninsula): five adult males: wing, 115–118 (116) mm.; tail, 115–122 (117.8); culmen from cere, 15–17 (15.9); five adult females: wing, 114–120.5 (116.3); tail, 109.5–120 (111.5); culmen from cere, 15–15.5 (15.2). Measurements of *emma*: five adult males: wing, 112–116 (113.8); tail, 101–112 (107); culmen from cere, 14–15 (14.7); five adult females: wing, 106–114 (110.9); tail, 106–112 (108.7); culmen from cere, 14–15 (14.5).

The specimens from the Mt. Turumiquire region are somewhat intermediate but closer to *auricularis*.

Those in the American Museum of Natural History from the Paria Peninsula, taken in May and June, are in worn plumage, while those in the Phelps Collection from the same region, taken in August and September, are fresh and many of them with the molt incomplete.

We restrict the type locality of *emma* to Caracas. It was listed by the describer as "Caraccas and Caripé."

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

P. leucotis emma.—VENEZUELA¹: Cerro Negro, Miranda, 1 ♂, 3 ♀; Cerro Golfo Triste, 1 ♂, 3 ♀, 1 (?); Aricagua, 2 ♂; Los Caracas, 3 ♀; Hda. Panchita, Yaracuy, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; Bucaral, 1 ♂.

P. l. auricularis.—VENEZUELA: Cristóbal Colón, 6 ♂, 6 ♂,¹ 3 ♀, 3 ♀,¹ 1 (?); Cerro Humo,¹ 3 ♂ (including type); 3 ♀; Quebrada Seca 2 ♂, 5 ♀; Río Neverí, 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Cerro Negro, Monagas, 2 ♀¹; Caripe,¹ 1 ♂, 2 ♀; Quebrada Bonita,¹ 2 ♂, 3 ♀; Los Altos,¹ 1 ♂, 2 ♀.

P. l. pfrimeri.—BRAZIL: Nova Roma, Goiás, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

P. l. griseipectus.—BRAZIL: "Brazil," 1 ♀; "Bronx Zoo," 1 ♂; Manchester Zoological Gardens, 2 ♂; no locality, 3 (?).

P. l. leucotis.—BRAZIL: Rio Doce Espírito Santo, 1 (?); Cajazeiras, Bahia, 1 ♂; "Rio," 2 (?); "Bahia," 2(?) "Brazil," 1 (?).

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

***Amazilia tobaci caudata*, new subspecies**

TYPE: From Campos Alegre Valley, State of Sucre, Venezuela. No. 480172, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male collected February 6, 1898, by Henry Caracciolo.

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from *A. t. aliciae* (Margarita Island) by its darker blue tail; from *tobaci* and *erythronotos* (Tobago and Trinidad islands) by its lighter, less purplish blue tail; from *feliciae* (Caracas region) by its rufous under tail-coverts; and from *caurensis* (State of Bolívar) by having paler, less purplish blue tail and rufous under tail-coverts.

RANGE: The mountainous region of the north coast of Venezuela in the states of Sucre, Monagas, and Anzoátegui, from Cristóbal Colón to Bergantín, in the Tropical Zone; Isla de Patos.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Crown lustrous Peacock Green × Emerald Green, this color changing gradually to more bronzy towards the rump; upper tail-coverts dark Hazel; sides of head and under parts lustrous Peacock Green × Emerald Green; shanks, lower abdomen, and femoral tuft white; under tail-coverts dark Hazel. Remiges and greater wing-coverts Dull Violet Black (1); lesser wing-coverts bronzy green; under wing-coverts and axillaries lustrous Peacock Green. Tail Dark Aniline Blue, near Alizarine Blue on under surface. Maxilla (in dried skin) black; mandible flesh color with dusky tip; feet black. Wing, 52 mm.; tail, 30.5; exposed culmen, 19; culmen from base, 23; tarsus, 4.5.

REMARKS: Sexes alike in size, but females slightly lighter and more yellowish green below. Size similar to *aliciae*. Range of measurements: type and four adult males from Caripe: wing, 50–53.5 (51.5) mm.; tail, 29–30.5 (30.1); exposed culmen, 17–20 (18.3); five adult females from Caripe and Los Altos: wing, 49–51 (50.4); tail, 27.5–28 (27.8); exposed culmen, 19–20 (19.6). Measurements of *aliciae*: three adult males: wing, 54; tail, 29–30.5 (30.2); exposed culmen, 19–20 (19.5); five adult females: wing, 51.5–54 (52.7); tail, 28–30.5 (29.5); exposed culmen, 19–21 (19.8).

Todd,¹ on comparing his specimens from the Mt. Turumiquire region with a series from Margarita Island, mentioned the possibility of separating the mainland population by the colora-

¹ 1942, "List of the hummingbirds in the collection of the Carnegie Museum," Ann. Carnegie Mus., vol. 29, p. 326.

tion of the upper parts, but he did not mention the difference in color of the tail. With a series of 20 specimens from Margarita Island and 92 from the mainland we cannot find a constant character other than the color of the tail.

The constant character that we find separating *caurensis* from *erythronotos* is the coloration of the lower parts; it is lighter, more yellowish green in *caurensis*. The grayish under tail-coverts of the type and two paratypes are duplicated in four out of the 25 specimens of *erythronotos*. The Mt. Auyan-tepui population cannot be separated from *erythronotos* by the under tail-coverts inasmuch as of the 13 specimens only three are grayish while six are bronzy purple similar to 12 *erythronotos* and three are pale rufous brown similar to nine *erythronotos*. However, these are manifestly *caurensis* because of the typically more yellowish sheen to the under parts.

We have seen no specimens of *apurensis* (San Fernando de Apure), but we would be surprised if it proves to be a valid race based on such a variable character as the intensity of the bronzy color of the upper parts; neither have we examined *monticola* (Guarico, Lara).

Our large series from Cristóbal Colón and Isla de Patos shows no tendency to intergrade with *erythronotos* notwithstanding the proximity to Trinidad.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

A. t. feliciae.—VENEZUELA: San Esteban, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Las Trincheras, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Galipán, 4 ♂, 2 ♀; Cotiza, 2 ♂, 1 (?).

A. t. caudata.—VENEZUELA: Campos Alegre Valley, 5 ♂ (including type), 5 ♀; Los Palmales, 1 ♂; Quebrada Seca, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Sal si Puedes, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; San Antonio de Maturín, 3 ♂, 2 (?); Cumanacoa, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?); Cumaná, 3 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Carúpano, 1 ♀; Cristóbal Colón, 2 ♂, 2 ♀. VENEZUELA¹: Quebrada Bonita, 1 ♀; Bergantín, 3 ♂; Los Altos, 4 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Cumaná, 1 ♂; San Antonio del Golfo, 1 ♀; Caripe, 8 ♂, 5 ♀, 1 (?); Carúpano, 1 ♀; Tunapuf, 1 ♂, 1 (?); Yaguaraparo, 1 (?); Cerro Humo, 1 ♀; Cristóbal Colón, 4 ♂, 4 ♀, 1 (?); Isla de Patos, 2 ♂, 7 ♀, 8 (?).

A. t. aliciae.—VENEZUELA: Margarita Island, 2 ♀, 3 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 ♂ (including type), 2 ♀, 2 ♂, 3 ♀, 3 ♂, 1 (?).³

A. t. erythronotos.—TRINIDAD: 18 ♂, 2 ♀, 5 (?).

A. t. tobaci.—TOBAGO: 4 ♂, 12 ♀, 1 (?).

A. t. caurensis.—VENEZUELA: Suapure, 1 ♂ (type); mountains west of Suapure, 1 ♀; Ciudad Bolívar, 1 ♀; Mt. Auyan-tepui, 6 ♂, 3 ♀, 3 (?).

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

² Specimens in the United States National Museum.

³ Specimens in the Chicago Natural History Museum.

***Basileuterus culicivorus roraimae*, new subspecies**

TYPE: From Paulo, Mt. Roraima, State of Bolívar, Venezuela; altitude 1200 meters. No. 237060, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male, collected November 4, 1927, by T. D. Carter.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *B. c. olivaceus* (Trinidad) from which it differs by having darker, more greenish (less grayish) olive back; superciliary stripe with yellowish tinge instead of whitish; auricular region averaging more dusky; size larger.

RANGE: Eastern part of the State of Bolívar.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Top of head with broad lateral black stripes joining across the posterior forehead; the feathers at base of bill mixed with grayish; a large Orange Rufous crown patch, the feathers mostly narrowly tipped with olive grayish; occiput centrally grayish olive separating the black stripes; back slightly greener than Deep Olive; uropygium approaching Yellowish Olive; a pale superciliary stripe Marguerite Yellow with grayish tips; lores whiter; auriculars dusky. Chin narrowly white; rest of under parts Lemon Chrome with a dark olivaceous wash on sides and flanks. Wings dark dusky brown; outer edges of remiges grayish, more olivaceous on tertials and inner secondaries; greater upper wing-coverts strongly edged with olivaceous; lesser wing-coverts olivaceous; inner vanes of remiges narrowly edged with whitish, less extensively distally towards the outermost; under wing-coverts and axillaries whitish. Tail dusky brown, paler below; outer margins of rectrices, except the outermost, olivaceous. Bill (in dried skin) brown; feet pale brown. Wing, 62 mm.; tail, 55; exposed culmen, 10; culmen from base, 14; tarsus, 19.

REMARKS: Sexes alike in color; males slightly larger. Size larger than *olivaceus*. Range of measurements: 10 adult males: wing, 59–62 (61.4) mm.; tail, 50–56 (54.1); culmen from base, 13.5–14 (13.9); three adult females: wing, 56–57 (56.6); tail, 49–52 (50.6); culmen from base, 13.5–14 (13.8). Measurements of *B. c. olivaceus*: seven adult males: wing, 54.5–61 (57.6); tail, 49.5–53 (51.3); culmen from base, 13–13.5 (13.1); five adult females: wing, 55–58 (55.9); tail, 49–52 (50.4); culmen from base, 13–13.5 (13.1).

Hellmayr,¹ with only three specimens from Mt. Roraima and

¹ 1935, Catalogue of birds of the Americas, pt. 8, p. 501.

one from British Guiana, found these different from *olivaceus*. He says: "Specimens from British Guiana [= Mt. Roraima, Venezuela] are again a little different, being slightly larger and a shade more brownish olive on the back." Our large series from Mt. Roraima makes it possible to confirm that the population of eastern Bolívar is different.

We have not seen the specimen from Annai, British Guiana, listed by Hellmayr, but as he mentioned no difference between it and his three from Mt. Roraima it may be presumed that it belongs to the new race.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

B. c. roraimae.—VENEZUELA: Paulo, Roraima, 8 ♂ (including type), 1 ♀; Arabupú, 5 ♂, 3 ♂,¹ 1 ♀ (?), 2 ♀.¹ VENEZUELA¹: Altiplanicie de Nuria, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 2 (?); El Palmar, 1 ♂, 2 ♀; Cerro Tomasote, 3 ♀, 1 (?); Cerro Ptari-tepui, 1 ♀; La Paragua, 2 ♂, 2 (?); Cerro Tigre, 1 ♀, 1 (?).

B. c. olivaceus.—TRINIDAD: 7 ♂, 10 ♀, 1 (?). VENEZUELA: La Tigrera, 3 ♂; Campos Alegre Valley, 2 ♂, 2 ♀; San Antonio de Maturín, 4 ♂, 1 ♀; Quebrada Seca, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Cocallar, 1 ♀; Cristóbal Colón, 8 ♂.

Myospiza aurifrons tenebrosa, new subspecies

TYPE: From San Carlos, Terr. Amazonas, Venezuela; altitude 180 meters. No. 41906, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male, collected August 18, 1947, by Manuel Castro. (Type on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History.)

DIAGNOSIS: Differs from the known forms of *M. aurifrons* by being darker throughout; the central stripes of crown and back are blacker and broader and the edges darker; breast more strongly washed with gray; outer edges of remiges darker; sides and flanks washed with darker gray.

RANGE: Known from the junction of the Caño Casiquiare and Río Guainía down the Río Negro to El Carmen, near the Brazilian border.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Feathers of crown blackish, narrowly edged with brownish gray, somewhat more yellowish on forehead; feathers of back with broad blackish streaks bordered with brownish, the feathers with broad olive gray edges; rump Mouse Gray × Hair Brown; upper tail-coverts darker and browner; supraloral stripe and lores Lemon Chrome continued as a duller and greener superciliary stripe; anterior malar region

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

and slight subocular lunule yellowish; auricular region brownish gray with inconspicuous paler shaft streaks. Chin, throat, abdomen, and under tail-coverts white; breast washed with Pale Smoke Gray; sides and flanks darker, approaching Light Grayish Olive; thighs dull brownish exteriorly, whitish interiorly. Wings Fuscous, paler on under surface; remiges edged outwardly with dull olivaceous, more brownish on inner secondaries and tertials; upper wing-coverts edged with dull grayish; carpal margin broadly Pinard Yellow; under primary-coverts dark grayish; remaining under wing-coverts and axillaries yellowish white. Tail Fuscous, paler below; rectrices finely edged externally with gray. Maxilla (in life) "black"; mandible "gray"; feet "gray"; iris "brown." Wing, 58 mm.; tail, 42.5; exposed culmen, 11; culmen from base, 14; tarsus, 21.2.

REMARKS: Sexes alike. Size similar to *M. a. aurifrons*. Range of measurements: five adult males: wing, 53–60.5 (56.7) mm.; tail, 40–47 (43.5); culmen from base, 14–15 (14.3); four adult females: wing, 55–57 (55.5); tail, 39–44 (40.7); culmen from base, 13.2–15 (14.0). Measurements of *aurifrons* from Teffé: five adult males: wing, 58–60 (58.8); tail, 40.5–43 (41.5); culmen from base, 14–15 (14.5); five adult females: wing, 56–59 (57.6); tail, 39–44 (41.2); culmen from base, 14–15 (14.4).

The juvenile differs in having no yellow on head other than a faint indication on lores; breast streaked with dusky; bend of wing yellowish white; and tertials edged with rufous brown.

The species has been previously known from Venezuela only by the subspecies *apurensis* from the upper Apure Valley.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

M. a. aurifrons.—BRAZIL: Piloto, Rio Negro, 1 ♀¹; Santarem, 1 ♀; Faro, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Santa Elena, 1 ♀; Arumanduba, 1 ♂; Porto Velho, 1 ♂, 2 ♀; Manaos, 3 ♂; Santo Isidoro, Teffé, 2 ♂, 3 ♀, 3 ♀ juv.; Boca Lago, Teffé, 4 ♂, 5 ♀, 2 ♀ juv. PERÚ: Mouth of Río Curaray, 2 ♂, 4 ♀. ECUADOR: Lower Río Suno, 1 ♂; Zamora, 5 ♂, 1 ♂ juv., 4 ♀, 1 ♀ juv. BOLIVIA: Todos Santos, 1 ♀; Tres Arroyos, 1 ♂; Yungas, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?) ; Mapire, 1 ♂. COLOMBIA: Florencia, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; La Morelia, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 2 (?) juv.

M. a. cherriei.—COLOMBIA: Villavicencio, 1 ♀ (type), 1 (?) juv.

M. a. tenebrosa.—VENEZUELA: Junction of Caño Casiquiare with Río Guainía, 2 ♂, 1 ♂ juv., 1 ♀ juv., 2 (?) juv.; San Carlos, 1 2 ♂ (including type), 3 ♀, 1 (?) ; El Carmen, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

M. a. apurensis.—VENEZUELA: Santo Domingo, 1 ♂ (type), 1 ♂.

¹ Specimens in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela.

